STEM CELL SCREENING AND TRANSPLANTATION THERAPY FOR HIV INFECTION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention provides methods for preventing or treating any disease arising from HIV infection, including AIDS and AIDS-related complex (ARC). The method comprises screening a plurality of donors to identify stem cells with a beneficial gene or genes and then transplanting the therapeutic stem cells into a patient. In preferred embodiments, the beneficial gene encodes a polymorphism that renders cells refractory to HIV infection. The polymorphism may be for a gene that encodes a ligand of a receptor for HIV entry, a product of the HLA complex, or a receptor for HIV entry.